



File No. IA- J-11011/223/2015-IA II (I)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
Impact Assessment Division

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jal Wing, 3rd Floor, Aliganj,
Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi-110 003

Dated: 26th August, 2021

To,

Shri. Tukaram Mahadev Devkate,
General Manager M/s Utopian Sugars Limited,
Kacharewadi village, Mangalwedha taluka,
Solapur-413305.

Sub: Proposed Expansion of Sugarcane Crushing Capacity from 4800 TCD To 7500 TCD and Distillery Capacity from 45 KLPD To 200 KLPD (Ethanol) Based on Sugarcane Syrup/"B" Heavy Molasses/"C" Molasses/Denature Spirit as Raw Material" at Kacharewadi, Taluka. Mangalwedha, District. Solapur, Maharashtra by M/s Utopian Sugars Limited- Consideration of Environment Clearance reg.

Sir,

This has reference to your online proposal No. IA/MH/IND2/211517/2019, dated 01st July, 2021 for environmental clearance to the above mentioned project.

2. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has examined the proposal for environmental clearance to the proposed Project Expansion of Sugarcane Crushing Capacity from 4800 TCD to 7500 TCD and Distillery Capacity from 45 KLPD To 200 KLPD (Ethanol) Based on Sugarcane Syrup/ "B" Heavy Molasses/ "C" Molasses/Denature Spirit as Raw Material" at Kacharewadi, Mangalwedha taluka, Solapur district, Maharashtra by M/s Utopian Sugars Limited.

3. The project/activities are covered under category A of item 5 (g) 'Distilleries' and 5 (j) Sugar Industry of the Schedule to the EIA, 2006 and requires appraisal at central level by the sectoral Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC). The proposal has been submitted under the Ministry's EIA Notification, 2006 amendments vide Notification no. S.O. 345(E) dated 17th January 2019 & extension of notification S.O. 750(E) dated 17th February 2020, S.O 980(E) dated 2nd March, 2021. Accordingly, the proposal is appraised as category 'B2' project at Central Level by Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC).

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4. Ministry issued EC for the distillery unit of 45 KLPD **Vide F. No. SEIAA-EC-0000002299 dated 20.07.2020** and it was commissioned in the year 2020 and as per EIA Notification there is no requirement of Environment Clearance for sugar industry having sugarcane crushing capacity is less than 5000 TCD. It was informed that no litigation is pending against the proposal.

5. The details of products and capacity are as under: -

Sr. No.	Unit	Capacity			
		Existing	Proposed	Total	
1.	Sugarcane crushing capacity	4800 TCD	2700 TCD	7500 TCD	
2.	Cogeneration Power Plant	14.8 MW	--	14.8 MW	
3.	Distillery	45 KLPD	155KLPD	200 KLPD	
	Rectified Spirit or	45 KLPD	--	45	Only one product at a time
	Extra Neutral Alcohol or	45 KLPD	--	45	
	Ethanol	45 KLPD	--	45	
	Ethanol	45 KLPD	155 KLPD	200	Utilized for EBP.

6. Existing land area is 344400 m²; no additional land is required for proposed expansion. Industry will develop greenbelt in an area of 33.34 % i.e. 11.48 ha out of total area of the project. The estimated project cost is Rs.125 Crores. Total capital cost earmarked towards environmental pollution control measures for existing capacity is Rs 34.40 Crores and the recurring cost (operation and maintenance) is about Rs 3.50 Crores per annum. For proposed expansion of project capital cost earmarked towards environmental pollution control measures will be Rs. 19.05 Crores and the recurring cost (operation and maintenance) will be Rs. 1.66 Crores. Total Employment will be 110, out of which 70 persons as direct & 40 persons indirect after expansion. Industry proposes to allocate Rs 94 Lakhs (0.75%) towards Corporate Environment Responsibility.

7. There are no national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, Biosphere Reserves, Tiger/Elephant Reserves, and Wildlife Corridors etc. within 10 km distance from the project site. Manganga River is flowing at a distance of 9.12 km in North-West direction.

8. Ambient air quality monitoring was carried out at 2 locations for January 2021 and the monitoring results indicate the ranges of concentrations as: PM₁₀ (69 – 74 µg/m³), PM_{2.5} (29 – 30µg/m³), SO₂ (8 - 10µg/m³) and NO_x (10 - 15µg/m³). As the proposal is a B2 category project baseline data is not required.

9. Total fresh water requirement of the plant will be 121 KLPD out of which 78 KLPD for distillery unit shall be met from ground water and rest 43 KLPD for domestic purpose shall be met from Ujani canal. Sugar effluent of 1095 m³/day

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shall be treated in existing sugar ETP by upgrading it. Distillery effluent 243 m³/day shall be treated based on concentration incineration and drying in spray dryer.

10. Power requirement after expansion will be 11000 KVA and will be met from its own existing 14.8 MW co-generation power plant. At present, 2*500 KVA DG Set with a Stack height of 6 m above roof level is provided as per CPCB norms for the DG sets. Existing unit has one bagasse fired boiler 1*82.5 TPH and 1*15 TPH incineration boiler. After the proposed expansion the 1*80 TPH of bagasse fired boiler for sugar unit and distillery unit will be installed. ESP with a stack of height of 60 m shall be provided.

11. Details of Process emissions generation and its management: SO₂ and CO₂ gases shall be scrubbed. CO₂ gas shall be recovered.

12. Details of Solid waste/Hazardous waste generation and its management: Pressmud generated will be around 300 MT/D which shall be sold as manure. Fly ash generated will be 711 MT/M. Ash generated shall be used for brick manufacturing in factory premises. The total quantity of ETP sludge generated shall be 50 MT/M, which shall be sold as manure. Hazardous waste i.e. spent oil of 1.01 MT/Annum shall be utilized in-house for the lubrication of bullock carts.

13. Certified compliance report submitted by RO, MoEFCC- F.No.: EC-975/RON/2019-NGP/8211 dated 01.07.2021 mentioned one non-compliance and six partial compliances. PP informed that ATR has been submitted to IRO, Nagpur.

14. As per OM dated 16th June, 2021, PP has submitted self-certification in the form of affidavit declaring that the proposed expansion of 155 KLPD will be for manufacturing of fuel ethanol only.

15. After detailed deliberations, EAC observed that proposed parking area is 16% and suggested that parking area shall be increased to at least 18%. Further, EAC directed that PP shall commit that composting wouldn't be done.

16. The proposal was considered by the EAC in its 38th meeting held during 28th -29th July, 2021 in the Ministry, wherein the project proponent and their consultant M/s. Dr. Subbarao's Environment Centre, Sangli presented the EMP report as per the PFR. The Committee found the EMP report complying with the PFR and recommended the project for grant of environmental clearance.

17. The EAC, constituted under the provision of the EIA Notification, 2006 and comprising of Experts Members/domain experts in various fields, have examined the proposal submitted by the Project Proponent in desired form along with EIA/EMP report prepared and submitted by the Consultant accredited by the QCI/ NABET on behalf of the Project Proponent. The EAC noted that the Project Proponent has given undertaking that the data and information given in the application and enclosures are true to the best of his knowledge and belief and no information has been suppressed in the EIA/EMP report. If any part of data/information submitted is found to be false/ misleading at any stage, the project will be rejected and Environmental Clearance given, if any, will be revoked at the risk and cost of the project proponent.

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18. The Committee has also deliberated on the CER plan and found to be addressing the issues in the study area. The EAC has deliberated the proposal and has made due diligence in the process as notified under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006, as amended from time to time and accordingly made the recommendations to the proposal. The Experts Members of the EAC have found the proposal in order and have recommended for grant of environmental clearance.

19. The environmental clearance granted to the project/activity is strictly under the provisions of the EIA Notification 2006 and its amendments. It does not tantamount/construe to approvals/consent/ permissions etc. required to be obtained or standards/conditions to be followed under any other Acts/ Rules/ Subordinate legislations, etc., as may be applicable to the project. The project proponent shall obtain necessary permission as mandated under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, as applicable from time to time, from the State Pollution Control Board, prior to construction & operation of the project.

20. Based on the proposal submitted by the project proponent and recommendations of the EAC (Industry-2), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change hereby accords environmental clearance for proposed expansion of Sugarcane Crushing Capacity from 4800 TCD To 7500 TCD and Distillery Capacity from 45 KLPD To 200 KLPD (Ethanol) Based on Sugarcane Syrup/"B" Heavy Molasses/"C" Molasses/Denature Spirit as Raw Material" at Kacharewadi, Taluka. Mangalwedha, District. Solapur, Maharashtra by M/s Utopian Sugars Limited, under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006, and the amendments therein, subject to compliance of the terms and conditions as under: -

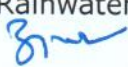
A. Specific Conditions:

(i) As per OM dated 16th June, 2021, project falls in category B2 and the proposed additional capacity of 155 KLPD shall be only be used for fuel ethanol manufacturing as per self-certification in form of an affidavit by the Project Proponent. Provided that subsequently if it is found that the ethanol, produced based on the EC granted as per this dispensation, is not being used completely for EBP Programme, or if ethanol is not being produced, or if the said distillery is not fulfilling the requirements based on which the project has been appraised as category B2 project, the EC shall stand cancelled.

(ii) The company shall comply with all the environmental protection measures and safeguards proposed in the documents submitted to the Ministry. All the recommendations made in the EIA/EMP in respect of environmental management, and risk mitigation measures relating to the project shall be implemented.

(iii) The project proponent will treat and reuse the treated water within the factory and no waste or treated water shall be discharged outside the premises.

(iv) Total fresh water requirement after expansion will be 121 KLPD which shall be met from ground water and Ujani canal. Prior permission shall be obtained from the concerned regulatory authority/Irrigation division in this regard, and renewed from time to time. No ground water recharge shall be permitted within the premises. Rainwater shall be collected in storage ponds and utilized for plant activities. Ground



water monitoring shall be done regularly and report is to be submitted to concerned authorities regularly.

(v) The spent wash shall be concentrated in MEE and dried in spray drier and as committed composting shall not be done.

(vi) CO₂ generated from the process shall be bottled/made solid ice and utilized/sold to authorized vendors.

(vii) Occupational Health Centre for surveillance of the worker's health shall be set up. The health data shall be used in deploying the duties of the workers. All workers & employees shall be provided with required safety kits/mask for personal protection.

(viii) Training shall be imparted to all employees on safety and health aspects of chemicals handling. Safety and visual reality training shall be provided to employees.

(ix) The unit shall make the arrangement for protection of possible fire hazards during manufacturing process in material handling. Firefighting system shall be as per the norms.

(x) Process organic residue and spent carbon, if any, shall be sent to Cement other suitable industries for its incinerations. ETP sludge, process inorganic & evaporation salt shall be disposed of to the TSDF.

(xi) The company shall undertake waste minimization measures as below (a) Metering and control of quantities of active ingredients to minimize waste; (b) Reuse of by-products from the process as raw materials or as raw material substitutes in other processes. (c) Use of automated filling to minimize spillage. (d) Use of Close Feed system into batch reactors. (e) Venting equipment through vapour recovery system. (f) Use of high pressure hoses for equipment clearing to reduce wastewater generation.

(xii) The green belt of at least 5-10 m width shall be developed in nearly 33% of the total project area, mainly along the plant periphery. Selection of plant species shall be as per the CPCB guidelines in consultation with the State Forest Department. Records of tree canopy shall be monitored through remote sensing map.

(xiii) As per the Ministry's OM dated 30.09.2020 superseding the OM dated 01.05.2018 regarding the Corporate Environmental Responsibility, and as per the action plan proposed by the project proponent to address the socio-economic and environmental issues in the study area, the project proponent, as committed, shall provide education funds in technical training centers/ support in nearby village's schools, support in health care facilities, drinking water supply and funds for miscellaneous activities like solar street lights, battery, solar panel etc., in the nearby villages. The action plan shall be completed within time as proposed.

(xiv) There shall be at least 18% parking space out of total area of plant site which shall be earmarked for parking of vehicles for raw materials and finished products, and no parking to be allowed outside on public places.

(xv) Storage of raw materials shall be either stored in silos or in covered areas to prevent dust pollution and other fugitive emissions.

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(xvi) Continuous online (24x7) monitoring system for stack emissions shall be installed for measurement of flue gas discharge and the pollutants concentration, and the data to be transmitted to the CPCB and SPCB server. For online continuous monitoring of effluent, the unit shall install web camera with night vision capability and flow meters in the channel/drain carrying effluent within the premises.

(xvii) A separate Environmental Management Cell (having qualified person with Environmental Science/Environmental Engineering/specialization in the project area) equipped with full-fledged laboratory facilities shall be set up to carry out the Environmental Management and Monitoring functions.

B. General Conditions:

(i) No further expansion or modifications in the plant, other than mentioned in the EIA Notification, 2006 and its amendments, shall be carried out without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change/SEIAA, as applicable. In case of deviations or alterations in the project proposal from those submitted to this Ministry for clearance, a fresh reference shall be made to the Ministry/SEIAA, as applicable, to assess the adequacy of conditions imposed and to add additional environmental protection measures required, if any.

(ii) The energy source for lighting purpose shall be preferably LED based, or advanced having preference in energy conservation and environment betterment.

(iii) The overall noise levels in and around the plant area shall be kept well within the standards by providing noise control measures including acoustic hoods, silencers, enclosures etc. on all sources of noise generation. The ambient noise levels shall conform to the standards prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 Rules, 1989 viz. 75 dBA (day time) and 70 dBA (night time).

(iv) The company shall undertake all relevant measures for improving the socio-economic conditions of the surrounding area. CER activities shall be undertaken by involving local villages and administration and shall be implemented. The company shall undertake eco-developmental measures including community welfare measures in the project area for the overall improvement of the environment.

(v) The company shall earmark sufficient funds towards capital cost and recurring cost per annum to implement the conditions stipulated by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change as well as the State Government along with the implementation schedule for all the conditions stipulated herein. The funds so earmarked for environment management/ pollution control measures shall not be diverted for any other purpose.

(vi) A copy of the clearance letter shall be sent by the project proponent to concerned Panchayat, Zilla Parishad/Municipal Corporation, Urban local Body and the local NGO, if any, from whom suggestions/ representations, if any, were received while processing the proposal.

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(vii) The project proponent shall also submit six monthly reports on the status of compliance of the stipulated Environmental Clearance conditions including results of monitored data (both in hard copies as well as by e-mail) to the respective Regional Office of MoEF&CC, the respective Zonal Office of CPCB and SPCB. A copy of Environmental Clearance and six monthly compliance status report shall be posted on the website of the company.

(viii) The environmental statement for each financial year ending 31st March in Form-V as is mandated shall be submitted to the concerned State Pollution Control Board as prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, as amended subsequently, shall also be put on the website of the company along with the status of compliance of environmental clearance conditions and shall also be sent to the respective Regional Offices of MoEF&CC by e-mail.

(ix) The project proponent shall inform the public that the project has been accorded environmental clearance by the Ministry and copies of the clearance letter are available with the SPCB/Committee and may also be seen at Website of the Ministry and at <https://parivesh.nic.in/>. This shall be advertised within seven days from the date of issue of the clearance letter, at least in two local newspapers that are widely circulated in the region of which one shall be in the vernacular language of the locality concerned and a copy of the same shall be forwarded to the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry.

(x) The project authorities shall inform the Regional Office as well as the Ministry, the date of financial closure and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of start of the project.

(xi) This Environmental clearance is granted subject to final outcome of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, Hon'ble High Court, Hon'ble NGT and any other Court of Law, if any, as may be applicable to this project.

21. The Ministry reserves the right to stipulate additional conditions, if found necessary at subsequent stages and the project proponent shall implement all the said conditions in a time bound manner. The Ministry may revoke or suspend the environmental clearance, if implementation of any of the above conditions is not found satisfactory.

22. Concealing factual data or submission of false/fabricated data and failure to comply with any of the conditions mentioned above may result in withdrawal of this clearance and attract action under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

23. Any appeal against this environmental clearance shall lie with the National Green Tribunal, if preferred, within a period of 30 days as prescribed under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

24. The above conditions will be enforced, inter-alia under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, the Hazardous Waste (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016 and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 read with subsequent amendments therein.

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25. This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

26/08/21

(Ashok Kumar Pateshwary)
Director

Copy to: -

1. The Secretary, Department of Environment, Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai 400 032
2. Deputy Director General of Forests (C), Ministry of Env., Forest and Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, Ground Floor, East Wing, New Secretariat Building, Civil Lines, Nagpur- 440001
3. The Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board Parivesh Bhavan, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi -32
4. The Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Kalpataru Point, 3rd and 4th floor, Opp. Cine Planet, Sion Circle, Mumbai – 22
5. Monitoring Cell, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi
6. The District Collector, Solapur District, Maharashtra
7. Guard File/Monitoring File/Parivesh portal/Record File

26/08/21

(Ashok Kumar Pateshwary)
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